

REMARKS:

Claims 1, 3-12 and 14-28 are presently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 12 are in independent form. New claims 25-28 have been added by this amendment.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 11, and 21-23 were rejected under §103 over Osborn in view of Yamamura. The Examiner relies upon Yamamura, citing column 11, lines 33-38, to provide the limitation of "a flexible belt having a profile with a plurality of protrusions" in claim 1. All Yamamura discloses is a "a timing belt having teeth on the outer peripheral surface." However, Osborn requires a "very thin and flexible" tape (col. 4, lines 17-18) so that it can be twisted. In fact, the tape is only 0.040" thick (col. 4, lines 27-32) of woven material such as used for seat belts so that it can be twisted. As a result, there is no way to incorporate the timing belt of Yamamura and the proposed combination is improper.

Claim 4 requires that the belt be continuous, which is not disclosed in Osborn. In Figure 8 of Osborn and at column 3, lines 44-46, for example, terminal ends are disclosed as attached to drums 34 and 36. Yamamura shows a cable 170 having terminal ends in Figures 17 and 21. The limited disclosure relating to the timing belt does not suggest a configuration other than that shown in the Figures.

Claims 21-23 are also allowable because the references do not disclose the limitations recited in these claims. The Examiner has not directed the Applicant to any support for the rejection of these claims.

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under §103 over Osborn in view of Yamamura in further view of Shibata. The Examiner argues that Shibata discloses "stops defining open and closed positions" as required by claim 6. Applicant has carefully reviewed the text and drawings of Shibata and has found no such elements. There is no discussion in Shibata as to what defines the open and closed positions. Furthermore, Figure 4 seems to indicate that the window 56 would collide with the bottom of the door (in phantom) prior to the plate reaching the lower bracket 28. Accordingly, claim 6 is allowable for this additional reason.

Claims 12, 14-16, and 24 were rejected under §103 over Osborn in view of Shibata. Claim 14 requires a continuous loop, which is not disclosed in either Osborn or Shibata. As discussed above relative to claim 4, Osborn has terminal ends. With respect to Shibata, two tapes 44 and 68 each have terminal ends with an end secured to the plates 58 and 70. Accordingly, claim 14 is allowable for this additional reason. Claim 15 is also allowable for the

reasons set forth above relative to claim 6. Claim 24 requires a "glass support member...generally parallel with a rotational axis of [the] pulley," which is not disclosed in either of the references. Osborn discloses a glass support member and pulley axis that are perpendicular, and Shibata is silent as to the orientation of the glass support member and pulley for an embodiment utilizing a flexible belt. Accordingly, claim 24 is allowable for this additional reason.

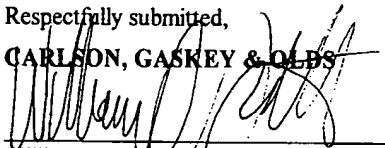
Claim 20 was rejected under §103 over Osborn in view of Shibata in further view of Yamamura. Claim 20 is allowable for reasons similar those set forth above relative to claim 1.

The pending claims are allowable over the prior art for the reasons set forth above. Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the claims.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. If any fees or extensions of time are required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1482.

Respectfully submitted,

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